

OPINION 1465

Laomedea gracilis Sars, 1850 (currently *Clytia gracilis*; Cnidaria, Hydrozoa): specific name conserved

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the name *gracilis* Dana, 1846, as published in the binomen *Lomodea* (err. pro *Laomedea*) *gracilis*, and all uses of that name prior to its publication by Sars (1850) are hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) Under the plenary powers the names *pileata*, *thompsoni*, *punctata* and *sarnica* Forbes, 1841, and the names *lineata* and *inconspicua* Forbes, 1848, all as combined with the generic name *Thaumantias* Eschscholtz, 1829, are hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

(3) The name *gracilis* Sars, 1850, as published in the binomen *Laomedea gracilis* and as interpreted by the lectotype designated in BZN 43: 165, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(4) The name *gracilis* Dana, 1846, as published in the binomen *Lomodea* (err. pro *Laomedea*) *gracilis* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

(5) The names *pileata*, *thompsoni*, *punctata* and *sarnica* Forbes, 1841, and the names *lineata* and *inconspicua* Forbes, 1848, all as combined with the generic name *Thaumantias* Eschscholtz, 1829 and as suppressed in (2) above, are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific names in Zoology.

History of Case 2493

An application for the conservation of *Laomedea gracilis* Sars, 1850 was received from Dr P. F. S. Cornelius (*Department of Zoology, British Museum (Natural History), London*) and Dr C. Ostman (*Zoologiska Institutionen, Uppsala, Sweden*) on 19 September 1984. After correspondence a revised case was published in BZN 43: 163–169 (July 1986) under the title *On the names of two species of the genus Clytia Lamouroux, 1812 (Cnidaria, Hydrozoa) common in western Europe*. Notice of the case was given to ten general and eleven specialist serials.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1987 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals in BZN 43: 166–167 (in proposal 1(b) '*conspicua*' should read '*inconspicua*'). At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1987 the votes were:

Affirmative votes — 19: Alvarado, Bayer, Bernardi, Cocks, Corliss, Gruchy, Hahn, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Melville, Mroczkowski, Savage, Schuster, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 3: Cogger, Dupuis, Thompson.

Ride was on leave of absence. No votes were returned by Halvorsen and Starobogatov.

Dupuis voted against the proposals owing to taxonomic doubts. Cogger considered that suppressing six specific names of indeterminate taxa, albeit to protect a moderately well-used name, was an unacceptable use of nomenclatural procedures to resolve or

avoid future taxonomic problems. Thompson considered para. 12 of the case to be irrelevant as Art. 79c does not refer to homonyms, and he saw no need to suppress the Forbes names until they are shown to be senior synonyms of names in use. His main objection was that the replacement of junior primary homonyms was an important matter of principle which should not be set aside in this instance.

Original references

The following are the original references to names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling in the present Opinion:

gracilis, *Laomedea*, Sars, 1850, *Nytt Magasin for Naturvidenskapene*, Christiania, 9: 138.

gracilis, *Lomodea*, Dana, 1846, *United States Exploring Expedition... under the command of Charles Wilkes, U.S.N.*, vol. 7 (Zoophytes), p. 689.

pileata and *thompsoni*, *Thaumantias*, Forbes, 1841, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, (1), 7: 84.

punctata and *sarnica*, *Thaumantias*, Forbes, 1841, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, (1), 7: 85.

lineata, *Thaumantias*, Forbes, 1848, *A monograph of the British naked-eyed medusae: with figures of all the species*, p. 48.

inconspicua, *Thaumantias*, Forbes, 1848, *A monograph of the British naked-eyed medusae: with figures of all the species*, p. 52.